

Docket 05-235 Morse code removal

My name is Burt Rooke, N7OW

As a former U.S. Navy Radioman and avid CW amateur, I oppose removal of the code. There is too much history and fundamental basis for the code. Removing it is like taking Ohm's law from physics courses. It will allow more people to take the courses and pass but less to truly understand the basis of the principles behind the learning and later to then apply the learning. Removal CW will also create less disciplined operators on the bands.

Difficult things to achieve are worth more because of the long process of the accomplishment. Allowing more undisciplined amateurs to encroach into the existing CW bands will only continue to exacerbate frustrations for all users of the frequencies. It will be a loss for all involved.

Doing something because others do it is not necessarily the answer to attracting more applicants and users (e.g. other countries). Contrary to that is my suggestion for changing the FCC tests for amateurs to truly show that one understands how a radio receives and how a radio transmits. Presently, one merely memorizes facts like detritus on a beach and then wonders why they cannot build or explain a ship! Excellence breeds excellence. None of the existing tests provide that one knows and understands radio theory!

I am also suggesting that you will receive more opinions/comments in favor of removal of the CW requirement. This is simply because there are always more people that want the easy way into something.

Instead of removing or lessening the CW bands, I suggest opening portions of bands for those who do not wish to utilize the code—similar to the older novice privileges.

Sincerely,

Burt Rooke, N7OW